

A WORLD OF IDEAS

SCIENCE
FRONTIERS

THE
THE LEARNING
CHANNEL

SCIENCE FRONTIERS

What do the latest breakthroughs in superconducting mean to bus drivers in Peoria? Why should the development of new medical technology change the way we think of our grandchildren?

These are the kinds of questions posed by *Science Frontiers*, the Emmy award winning, hour-long science series on The Learning Channel. Each episode covers a single topic in depth to give us greater insight into the impact of revolutionary scientific advances. This carefully selected anthology probes how breakthroughs influence how we think and communicate, as well as how we live our lives. Episodes such as *Of Big Bangs, Stick Men and Galactic Holes* probe how breakthroughs influence how we think and communicate as well as how we live our lives.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

OF BIG BANGS, STICK MEN AND GALACTIC HOLES

For the last few decades cosmologists – students of the Universe – have had good reason to feel satisfied. They know that the Universe began in a gigantic Big Bang some 15 thousand million years ago, and they are close to finalizing the details of how stars, galaxies and even people and planets have evolved. *Of Big Bangs, Stick Men and Galactic Holes* goes to the tops of mountains, out into space and to the quietest place on Earth to ask if, far from being close to completion, the cosmological jigsaw is now in danger of being broken apart.

DEAD MEN TALK

Dead men tell more than just tales in this exploration of scientific techniques for dating fossils. In fact, what scientists are learning from our dead ancestors is revolutionizing our theories on the evolution of the human race. This program shows that as our method of reading the traces of the past grows more efficient, our supposed knowledge becomes simultaneously more tenuous and more accurate.

UNRAVELLING THE UNIVERSE

The greatest scientific minds in the world grow silent when it comes to reconciling relativity and quantum theory. But reconciliation may be close at hand, thanks to a new cosmological theory, known as the "superstrings" theory. This episode will attempt to explain superstrings in a way we can understand, as well as exploring methods for visualizing scientific abstraction.



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TEACHER TV

Teacher TV is an energetic, upbeat, magazine-style show, shot on location in schools across the country



featuring candid profiles of teachers, schools and communities daring to challenge the status quo. It's a place for educators to share techniques, ideas and resources, created with

input from thousands of educators. Produced by the two-million-member National Education Association and The Learning Channel, *Teacher TV* is television's only national program for, by and about teachers.

Teacher TV offers practical advice for teachers, parents and the entire community. Go into the classroom with a 22-year-old student-teacher about to teach his very first class. Visit a school that uses interactive videodiscs to teach ninth-grade chemistry to sixth graders. And listen to teachers who've won the Christa McAuliffe Award explain how they use technology to enhance their teaching. Do all this and more on *Teacher TV*, the continuing half-hour series on The Learning Channel.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

TEACHER PRESENTATION

In the next five to ten years, nearly half of America's teachers will retire. Who will teach America? The three segments of this episode address an educational crisis and show some unorthodox methods for training our future teachers. In the first segment, we'll go into a

classroom to learn what it takes to become a teacher. In the second segment, we'll examine an innovative five-year training program in Maine. And the third segment will take us to Switzerland, where we'll have an opportunity to see how some of Europe's best teachers ply their trade.

THE CHANGING ROLE OF SCHOOLS

With broken families on the rise and social community services on the decline, schools and teachers are often left to take on the roles of psychiatrist, social worker, counselor, and even father and mother. But at what

cost? This episode examines what the extra pressure means to our educational system, as well as how teachers are rising to the challenge of relating to their students in new ways.

DESIGN A SCHOOL

Teacher TV

explores three schools that have thrown out the manual and are redesigning

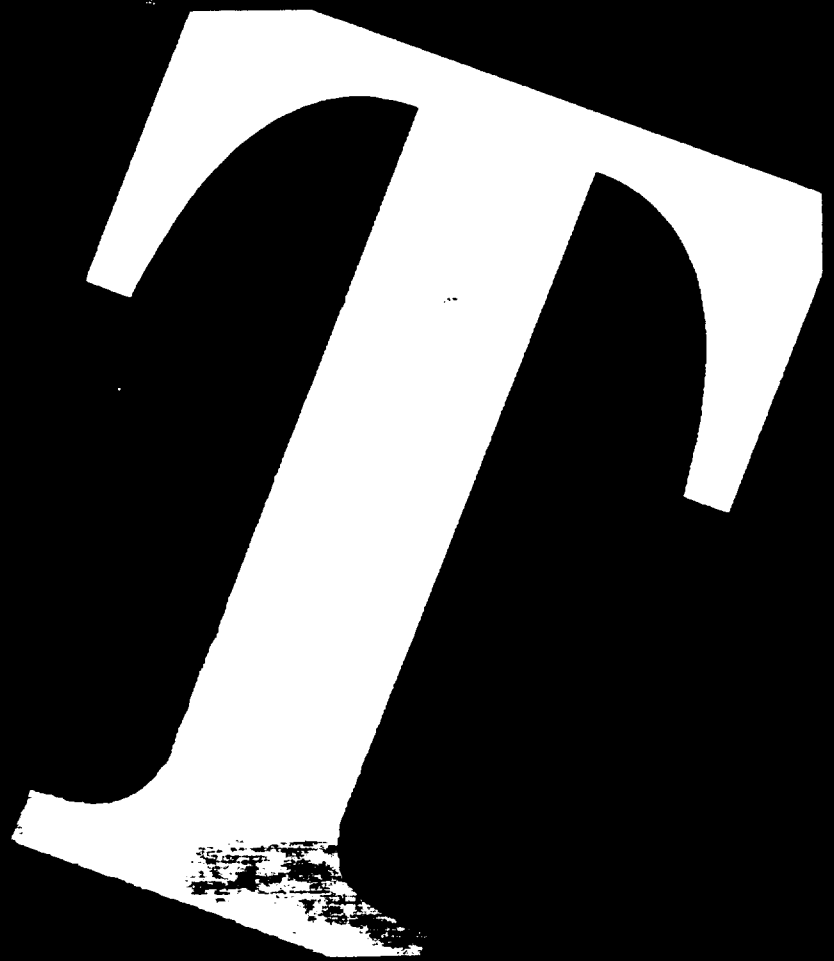
themselves. We'll go on location to Indianapolis, Indiana, upstate New York, and Austin, Texas. We'll meet the teachers, parents and students who are revolutionizing the way schools are designed and run. And we'll look at the difficult lessons they're learning in the process.



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Teacher

TM

TEACHER TV





A TRAVELER'S JOURNAL

This is not a series for people who see the world from the back of a tourist bus. This is a series for upscale, culturally aware voyagers who immerse themselves in the lands they visit. It is hosted by natives or knowledgeable "outsiders" who know these places as they know their own hearts, who can show us a country's soul as well.



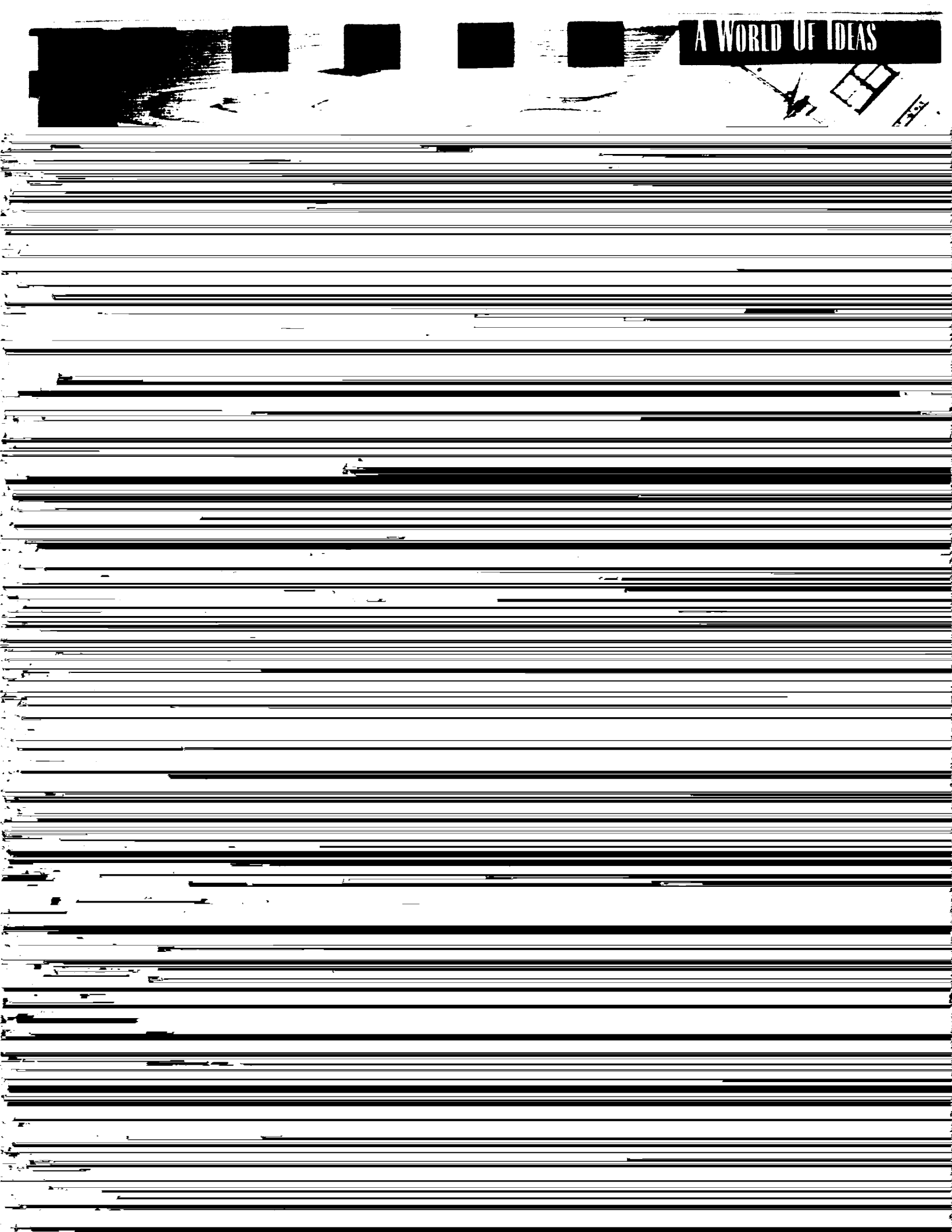
Actress Diana Rigg (*The Avengers*) proudly brings us on a tour of the rugged west coast of her native Scotland. Expatriate best-selling novelist Gore Vidal takes us beyond the famous palaces of Venice to

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

J.P. DONLEAVY'S IRELAND
From a perfectly pulled pint of ale in Cavanaugh's pub in Dublin to the ruins of the cottage in Kilcoole where he began his beloved million-copy bestseller *The Ginger Man*, J.P. Donleavy brings us on a journey into the very heart and soul of Ireland. Donleavy is the irreverent Irish-American playwright known for his wry commentaries on Ireland. Donleavy will share his memories, idiosyncratic insights and personal history with us against a backdrop of the emerald beauty that is Ireland. We'll visit his alma mater Trinity College during registration. We'll travel to Cork and Kerry, the rocky cliffs of Galway and the fields and farms of Lonsford. And we'll

SCOTLAND WITH DIANA RIGG
Scotland: Wild. Ancient. Rugged. It takes a native to penetrate this forbidding and close countryside peopled by the descendants of highlanders and wild men of the woods. Explore the mysteries of Castle Culzean in Southwest Scotland with Scottish native Diana Rigg. Get to know the Scottish countryside, architecture and people. And visit a selection of properties owned by the National Trust for Scotland in the Highlands. Over the course of eight episodes, we'll see a side of Scotland usually known only to those who live there.

VIDAL IN VENICE
The Venetians created an empire



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WEEKEND

HOMETIME

How about a home improvement show for real people? How about *Hometime*, the returning

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

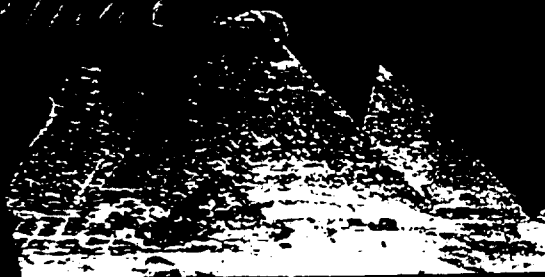
- FURNITURE REFINISHING
- How do you turn a broken-down
- piece of junk into an attractive
- and valuable antique? You'll find
- WEATHERIZATION
- AND INSULATION
- How can you save energy and
- lower your heating costs without

A WORLD OF IDEAS

Let
them
know
what
they
have
lost
and
how
to
get it
back

THE WORLD:
A TELEVISION
HISTORY

THE
THE LEARNING
CHANNEL



THE WORLD: A TELEVISION HISTORY

How can you stuff 10 million years of human history into 25 half-hour episodes? Ask Professor Geoffrey Barraclough, editor of *The Times Atlas of World History*, the international bestseller that's sold over 400,000 copies. He's the principal consultant for one of the most ambitious television series ever produced. Using specially designed animated maps, unique computer generated graphics, and both rare and specially commissioned footage, *The World: A Television History* provides a truly global and geographical view of human history.

The World: A Television History uses no inter-viewers and no presenters. The series relies entirely on innovative visual techniques to bring to life our common history. From the dawn of mankind to the end of the Cold War, *The World: A Television*



History breaks down world history into insightful, easy-to-digest chunks.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THE AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION — 8000-5000 BC

When man began to selectively breed and cultivate certain animals and plants, he started down the road to controlling his environment. But what demands did agriculture and herding put on early tribal structures? How did communities eventually turn into cities? And why was the transition from hunter to farmer so important?

THE MONGOL ONSLAUGHT — 850-1500
Genghis Khan and his Mongol hordes were a tide of terror that swept across the Asian steppes and threatened to conquer the world. How did he unite the Mongols into a legendary fighting force, feared for their military prowess and superb horsemanship? What happened to the peoples they conquered? And why did the Mongols eventually disappear?

AFRICA BEFORE THE EUROPEANS — 100 - 1500
Egypt. Axum. Mali. Benin. The great civilizations of Africa — centers of learning and vast networks of trade and commerce. From their artistic



heritage to their universities, the cultures and peoples of Africa still influence our world today. But how much do we really know about them? How did the spread of the Bantu from Cameroon change the nature of sub-Saharan Africa? And what events sowed the seeds for the great kingdoms' eventual conquest and downfall?

THE END OF THE OLD ORDER — 1914-1929

By 1914 Europe was a powderkeg waiting to explode. When it blew, it took the rest of the world with it into World War I. What happened next? How did the boom of the postwar years turn into the bust of worldwide depression? And how did the end of the old order and economic catastrophe instigate the rise of the Nazis?



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